

what you want to do on this particular matter. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. Speaker, would Senator Hannibal yield to a question?

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hannibal, will you respond please?

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Yes.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Senator Hannibal, did I understand that you want to put the fee back to \$5?

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Yes.

SENATOR HIGGINS: And that the Health Department said that would make them break even?

SENATOR HANNIBAL: The Vital Statistics Department said that, that puts their budget in a break even situation, yes. \$48,000 is what we lose this year. \$48,000 next year and \$30,000 the year after that. If we leave the fee as it is amended right now we would have a \$10,000 shortfall in the 84-85 budget. I am having this piece of information passed out to you and it does explain it quite well.

SENATOR HIGGINS: I would have to say the present fee is \$3.75? Correct?

SENATOR HANNIBAL: \$3.00.

SENATOR HIGGINS: I would have to say that I think that is reasonable. I don't think you have that many deaths in the family every year that the increase by \$2 is going to hurt. Certainly if it is going to help the Department of Statistics to at least break even on it I would support such an amendment. We have a shortfall as it is in the state budget. If this was something that every taxpayer was going to pay every day or every year, then it could add up to quite a bit. But since it is something that you rarely have to pay, I don't think it would be that great an impact on the taxpayers. Thank you Mr. Speaker and colleagues.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. We have made a sincere attempt this year to have areas of state government which are services provided by the State of Nebraska to have a fair share of their cost